

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUWAIT 04467 261023Z

15

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 SCEM-02

INT-08 DRC-01 /138 W

----- 091128

R P 261000Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8382

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

CINCUSNAVEUR

COMIDEASTFOR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUWAIT 4467

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR BA SA

SUBJ: PRESS ARTICLE RE US NAVAL FACILITIES BAHRAIN

SUMMARY: ENGLISH LANGUAGE KUWAIT TIMES REPORTS THAT SAG IS  
PRESSING GOVT OF BAHRAIN TO CANCEL COMIDEASTFOR AGREEMENT.  
END SUMMARY

1. ENGLISH LANGUAGE KUWAIT TIMES DEC 26 RAN LOCAL STORY ENTITLED  
"BAHRAIN DILEMMA ON AMERICAN NAVAL AGREEMENT". IMPORTANT PARAS  
AS FOLLOWS: U.S. NAVAL "FACILITIES" IN BAHRAIN ARE CONTINUING  
UNINTERRUPTED AS BEFORE AND AMERICAN AUTHORITIES ON ISLAND HAVE  
NOT MADE ANY PREPARATIONS TO EVACUATE BASE AS DEMANDED BY BAHRAIN  
GOVERNMENT DURING OCTOBER WAR, IT IS LEARNT FROM RELIABLE  
SOURCES.

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PAGE 02 KUWAIT 04467 261023Z

SOURCES ADDED THAT PENTAGON IS USING ONE-YEAR TERMINATION NOTICE

PERIOD IN BAHRAIN-U.S. AGREEMENT TO PREVARICATE (SIC) ON ISSUE, AND BEHAVE AS IF NO CHANGE HAS TAKEN PLACE IN HOPE THAT BAHRAIN CAN EITHER BE "PERSUADED" OR EVEN PRESSURISED (SIC) TO WITHDRAW ITS "GET OUT" NOTICE TO U.S. NAVY.

ALARMED BY DEVELOPMENT, THE SAUDI FOREIGN MINISTER, MR. OMAR AL SAKKAF, PAID UNSCHEDULED VISIT TO ISLAND TEN DAYS AGO TO WARN BAHRAINI GOVERNMENT AGAINST GIVING IN TO AMERICAN BLACK-MAIL TACTICS, SOURCES ADDED.

MR. SAKKAF MADE IT CLEAR TO BAHRAIN'S AMIR, SHEIKH ISA BIN SALMAN AL KHALIFA, THAT SAUDI KING FEISAL IS AGAINST ANY AMERICAN NAVAL PRESENCE IN GULF, AND THAT SAUDI MONARCH WOULD BE UNHAPPY IF BAHRAIN GOVERNMENT RESCINDS NOTICE AND EVEN RENEWS AGREEMENT WITH U.S.

MR. SAKKAF REPORTEDLY COUPLED HIS WARNING WITH THREAT THAT SAUDI ARABIA WOULD WITHHOLD SUPPLIES OF OIL FROM ARAMCO TO THE BAPCO REFINERY IN AWALL, WHICH GETS 80 PER CENT OF ITS CRUDE SUPPLIES FROM SAUDI ARABIA....

SOURCES SAID SHEIKH ISA'S GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN CAUGHT IN ACUTE DILEMMA, AND IS BIDDING FOR TIME FOR SITUATION TO CLARIFY ITSELF FURTHER. HOWEVER, IF FORCED TO MAKE CHOICE FINALLY, SHEIKH ISA WOULD RETAIN SAUDI GOODWILL AND FRIENDSHIP, AND WILL HAVE TO INSIST THAT AMERICANS WITHDRAW AS THEY HAVE BEEN TOLD TO IN OCTOBER.

2. COMMENT: KUWAIT TIMES NOTED FOR SENSATIONAL INACCURACIES (GENERALLY ANTI-US) BUT WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY COMMENTS MANAMA AND JIDDA MAY HAVE.  
STOLTZFUS

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PFOR, BA, SA  
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